



Spring Newsletter 2016

4.4.16

New ground

“We desperately need the support of the people of St Albans to broaden our net and bring the benefits of top non league football to Clarence Park. The plans for a floodlit training pitch available for public use and indeed the future of the club itself depend upon the attitude of St Albans Council.” These words were spoken by the St Albans City then Managing Director, Bob Murphy, back in 1987 and given the recent article in the Herts Ad, it appears that not a lot has changed in the last 29 years. In speaking to joint owner Lawrence Levy, it seems that the council are asking where the proposed new ground is to be. The land owners who may be willing to sell land for development firstly want assurances that the land will be allowed to be developed and is included in future local plans. It really is a case of watch this space.

Jeff Stelling's Men United March for Prostrate Cancer



The Trust presented a cheque for £100 to Jeff Stelling, when he visited Clarence Park on the Men United March. The money goes to Prostrate Cancer UK and is taken from part of the legacy left to the Trust by supporter John Wangford, who sadly died of cancer.

End Of Season Awards

Voting for the End of Season awards will take place on the Saturday 16 April match v Havant & Waterlooville. You will also be able to vote for the Goal of the Season via the Club website. All the awards will presented at our final match of the season v Dartford on 30 April in the Saints Bar following the match, at around 6:15pm.

Trust Survey results

The results of the recent survey conducted by the Trust can be found on our website and my thanks go to everyone who took part in the survey, which produced generally positive results with some excellent comments about improving the Trust. In addition to this data, we received a number of hard copies and a summary of these are shown below. We are formulating an action plan from the survey, which will be posted shortly.

Survey replies received via post

Communication with members - scored about right but the Trust must create more awareness that we actually exist.

Methods used to communicate with members - most replies said the website and face to face communication.

Management of Trust funds - all replies said they were satisfied with the Trust management of funds.

Main priorities for next year - comments included - raise profile of the Trust - get more information in the local press - improve communications with the Football Club - sustainability of the Football Club.

How can we improve as a Trust?

Answers included - regular publicity for the Trust to increase membership - the possibility of getting a new stadium is a pipe dream, the Trust and the football club must lobby the council to get improvements made to Clarence Park.

How can we broaden membership of the Trust?

It depends on how well the players perform on the pitch - more in the programme and local press.

How satisfied are you with your match day experience?

Scored an average of 4 - improve toilet facilities was one comment.

What would you like to see the Trust doing that it does not currently do?

Work with the Club to get a new ground and increase awareness of this with away supporters - improve publicity for matches with posters/flyers.

New Board Members

I am pleased to welcome John Bracken and Aaron Paea to the Trust board. John takes over from Nick Tarrant as Treasurer. Aaron's self introduction is - "I am a New Zealander who has travelled far and worldwide and has now settled in St Albans with my family. Currently, I consult to various clients in the Banking industry, building relationships and supporting them to bring their corporate ideas to reality. With these skills that I have acquired over many years, I am looking forward to similarly supporting the Trust to achieve their aims and objectives. While my passion will always be in rugby, which I still actively play, my love of all sports in the UK and supporting local teams has led me to the Football Club as a fan and now as a member of the Trust".

Ian Rogers
Chairman
Saints City Trust